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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Seventh session
Geneva, 11-22 November 1991

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The seventh session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 11 to 22 November 1991. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 11 November 1991, at 10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the seventh session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the seventh session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

5. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.

7. Preparatory activities relating to the World Conference on Human Rights.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

In accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure, the Committee at its sixth session decided to request the Secretary-General to continue sending reminders automatically to those States parties whose initial reports were more that 12 months overdue, and subsequent reminders every six months.

Initial reports under article 19 of the Convention were due in 1988 from the 27 States parties listed in document CAT/C/5. By notes verbales dated 15 August 1991, the Secretary-General requested for the fifth time the States parties which had not yet submitted their initial reports in 1988 to do so as soon as possible, for appropriate transmission to the Committee.

Under rule 65 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General is required to notify the Committee at each session of all cases of non-submission of reports. Accordingly, the three States parties whose initial reports were due in 1988, but had not been received as at 16 September 1991, are listed below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Luxembourg	28 October 1988
Togo	17 December 1988
Uganda	25 June 1988

Furthermore, initial reports under article 19 of the Convention were due in 1989 from the 10 States parties listed in document CAT/C/7. Pursuant to the decision of the Committee at its sixth session, the Secretary-General, by notes verbales dated 15 August 1991, requested for the third time the States parties which had not yet submitted their initial reports in 1989 to do so as

soon as possible, for appropriate transmission to the Committee. The names of the two States whose initial reports were due in 1989, but had not been received as at 16 September 1991, are given below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Guyana	17 June 1989
Peru	5 August 1989

The 11 States parties whose initial reports under article 19 of the Convention were due in 1990 are listed in document CAT/C/9. Pursuant to the decision of the Committee at its sixth session, the Secretary-General, by notes verbales dated 18 March and 4 April 1991, requested those States parties whose initial reports were overdue by more than 12 months to submit their reports as soon as possible, for appropriate transmission to the Committee. The names of the five States whose initial reports were due in 1990, but had not been received as at 16 September 1991, are given below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Brazil	27 October 1990
Guinea	8 November 1990
Italy	10 February 1990
Poland	24 August 1990
Portugal	10 March 1990

The list of seven States parties whose initial reports under article 19 of the Convention are due in 1991 appears in document CAT/C/12. The names of the four States parties whose initial reports were due before 16 September 1991, but had not been received by that date, are given below:

State party	Date on which the initial report was due
Guatemala	3 February 1991
New Zealand	8 January 1991
Paraguay	10 April 1991
Somalia	22 February 1991

At its third, fourth and fifth sessions, the Committee also decided to request seven States parties whose initial reports had been considered during those sessions to furnish an additional report pursuant to rule 67, paragraph 2, of its rules of procedure. The additional report of China which had been requested by 31 December 1990 had not been received as at 16 September 1991.

In connection with this item, the Committee at its sixth session also decided to discuss further at its seventh session ways of drawing the attention of States parties to the importance of adequate and timely submission of their reports in fulfilment of their obligations under article 19 of the Convention.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the seventh session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Tuesday, 12 November 1991	
Ecuador (additional report)	CAT/C/7/Add.11
Wednesday, 13 November 1991	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	CAT/C/9/Add.6
Belize	CAT/C/5/Add.25
Thursday, 14 November 1991	
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	CAT/C/7/Add.12
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	CAT/C/9/Add.7
Friday, 15 November 1991	
Uruguay	CAT/C/5/Add.27
Australia	CAT/C/9/Add.8
Monday, 18 November 1991	
Bulgaria	CAT/C/5/Add.28
Wednesday, 20 November 1991	
Cameroon (additional report)	CAT/C/5/Add.26

In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its seventh session and has invited them to designate representatives to attend those meetings of the Committee.

General guidelines regarding the form and contents of initial reports to be submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention, which were adopted by the Committee at its third session and revised at its sixth session, are reproduced in document CAT/C/4/Rev.2. The texts of reservations, declarations, etc. made by States parties with respect to the Convention are contained in document CAT/C/2/Rev.1.

5. Consideration of information under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

7. Preparatory activities relating to the World Conference on Human Rights

Under this item, the Committee will consider a report by its representative to the first session of the Preparatory Committee of the World Conference on the results of that session and, in that light, any contribution that the Committee may wish to make to the second session of the Preparatory Committee.